

¹For this assignment I committed myself to read at least a couple of hours. Three times in the week and to also dedicate myself to reading 100 percent of the assigned text. Through this process I highlighted keynotes that stuck out to me most important. I also listened to Job, Song of Songs and watched videos from Lesson 21 Job – Lesson 25 Song of Songs. I also watched the video Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs from the Bible Project.com. The poetic books are given to the readers to give a narrative of the theodicy of the narrative which is the mystery of human suffering and always thinking of God as the solution. It also expresses the wisdom of God, the retribution of God and the fear of the Lord.

According to Hill and Andrew in the book *A Survey of the Old Testament*. The purpose of the book of Job is to test God's justice and to infer his justice to his wisdom being that we can never fully understand the Justice of God due to his sovereignty. The objective of the book of Psalms is to cover the three major themes. The retribution principle, the kingship and the nature and creation. It is also to provide a canto like presentation of God's Kingship through his representatives, through David's blood line and to show us the process of how God delights in rewarding the righteous and how he brings judgement and punishment to the wicked.

Hill and Andrew also explain that the book of Proverbs is a lifestyle of knowing the wisdom and instruction of the Lord through Godly living that was instructed to ancient Israel. It was also set in place to learn the fear of the Lord which is a reverent fear that is equivalent to high respect or high regard to Yahweh.

The Book of Ecclesiastes demonstrates life and the demonstration of the meaning of life as a gift from God. Also, to approach life's success and adversity as coming from the hand of the Lord. Hill and Andrew also explain the seasons of life and how they must be accepted and how the frustrations and emotions of life are unavoidable.

Hill and Andrew also explain that the book Song of Songs demonstrates the sanctity of human sexual expression in the context of marriage which creation can express through love to one another through the goodness of human sexual love in marriage and the virtue of faithfulness once married.

In diving into the Hebrew Poetic and wisdom Literature I was challenged with the way the Ancient Near East shared the same similarity in style of writing as the Hebrew people. In my past experience listening to sermons in church you always hear that the Hebrews were the first to be monotheistic in their faith however you never really get the backdrop on how similar the style of their literary work was. I was enlightened to understand that the context must be understood in an international context. I believe it is important not only to be well informed with their similarities but also with their differences. I would definitely like to research this topic further especially when you have unbelievers who base historical authenticity in dated material that predates Hebrew text to disprove the authenticity of the biblical narratives we have today as Christians.